



Introduced Version

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## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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*Introduced by: Hasler, Becker, Weinzapfel, Avery,  
Tincher, Crosby, Kersey, Grubb*

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A RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign to the Health Finance Commission the topic of studying how to reduce the number of birth defects in Indiana.

*Whereas, Indiana ranks 40th among the 50 states in the number of birth defects in children;*

*Whereas, Indiana's poor ranking requires us to try to find a way to protect our children from birth defects;*

*Whereas, Four major problems threaten the health of America's babies: birth defects, infant mortality, low birthweight, and lack of prenatal care;*

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*Whereas, On an average day in America, 411 babies are born with a birth defect, and 18 babies die as a result of a birth defect;*

*Whereas, The mission of the March of Dimes, a national non-profit organization, is to bring us closer to the day when all babies will be born healthy;*

*Whereas, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt established the March of Dimes in 1938 to fight polio, and the first research grant was awarded to Yale University the same year;*

*Whereas, Over its 63 year history, the March of Dimes has saved millions of babies from death or disability;*

*Whereas, The March of Dimes has been a pioneer in preventing birth defects, the nation's number one child health problem, through programs of research, community services, education, and advocacy;*

*Whereas, The March of Dimes is advocating for Indiana's babies; and*

*Whereas, Indiana's hope for ensuring that future generations get the best chance for a healthy start in life depends upon accurate and timely birth defects monitoring and identification: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1           SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the
- 2           Legislative Council to assign the Health Finance Commission the topic
- 3           of studying ways to prevent birth defects in Indiana.
- 4           SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 5           Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the local March of
- 6           Dimes chapter.

